

New Gas Dealership

658. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would take action for giving more domestic gas dealerships in Medak District of Andhra Pradesh, where people had been urging and protesting for the same; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) As on 31.10.2006, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are operating 21 LPG distributorships in Medak District of Andhra Pradesh. OMCs propose to set up 17 more LPG distributorships in the Medak District under their marketing plans.

Research on hydrogen fuel

659. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the research on hydrogen fuel is at its culmination stage and at the end of this year Government have plan to open some hydrogen-dispensing gas stations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what exactly is the roadmap on this prepared by the Hydrogen Energy Board;

(d) the details of private-public cooperation in developing hydrogen fuel in the country; and

(e) whether it is a fact that fuel cells which store hydrogen is an expensive technology and what efforts Government are making to produce hydrogen from a renewable source like water or bio-waste, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. It is not a fact that the research on hydrogen is at its culmination stage. Research and development efforts for production of hydrogen from different methods are in different stages of development. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has taken up a project in collaboration with the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. for setting up a hydrogen dispensing station in New Delhi.